



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BRANCH
Washington, D.C. 20570

Via email

August 25, 2023

Re: FOIA Request NLRB-2023-001971

Dear Richard Ross:

This is in response to your request, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, received on August 18, 2023, in which you seek the “[f]ull version of [the] Unilateral settlement agreement” in *Ceres Marine Terminal, Inc.*, Case No. 12-CA-308455. You assumed financial responsibility for the processing of your request in the amount of \$37.00, but requested a fee waiver. You also requested expedited processing.

We acknowledged your request on August 18, 2023. Regarding your request for expedited processing, the request is moot given that our final response is being provided to you within ten calendar days of your FOIA request.

Your request is denied in part and granted in part, as explained below.

A search of the Agency’s electronic casehandling system, NxGen, was conducted to locate the requested case file and record. That search confirmed that you are no longer a current party to the requested case. As such, your request for an unredacted “full version” of the unilateral settlement agreement is denied.

However, your request is granted to the extent that I have attached a redacted copy of the unilateral settlement agreement in the case, which is available to any member of the public pursuant to NLRB FOIA regulations regardless of the open or closed status of a case. Upon my review, redactions have been made to certain information in this record to protect the privacy interests of individuals named therein. These redactions were made pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, which protects personally identifying information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, and FOIA Exemption 7(C), which protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) and (b)(7)(C).

For the purpose of assessing fees, we have placed you in Category D, the “all other requesters” category, because you do not fall within any of the other fee categories. Consistent with this fee category, you will be assessed charges to recover the reasonable direct costs for searching for the requested records, except that you will not be charged for the first two hours of search. NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(ii)(D). Charges for all categories of requesters are \$9.25 per quarter hour of professional time. 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(d)(2)(i).

Less than two hours of professional time was expended in searching for the requested material. Accordingly, there is no charge for this request. Given that there is no charge for this request, your request for a fee waiver is moot.

You may contact Jodilyn Breirather, the FOIA Specialist who processed your request, at (414) 930-7208 or by email at Jodilyn.Breirather@nrlb.gov, as well as the Agency’s FOIA Public Liaison, for any further assistance and/or to discuss any aspect of your request. The FOIA Public Liaison, in addition to the FOIA Specialist, can further explain responsive and releasable agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, and/or discuss how to narrow the scope of a request in order to minimize fees and processing times. The contact information for the FOIA Public Liaison is:

Kristine M. Minami, FOIA Public Liaison
National Labor Relations Board
1015 Half Street, S.E., 4th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20570
Email: FOIAPublicLiaison@nrlb.gov
Telephone: (202) 273-0902
Fax: (202) 273-FOIA (3642)

After first contacting the Agency, you may additionally contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: (202) 741-5770
Toll free: (877) 684-6448
Fax: (202) 741-5769

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You may obtain a review of this determination under the NLRB Rules and Regulations, 29 C.F.R. § 102.117(c)(2)(v), by filing an administrative appeal with the Division of Legal Counsel (DLC) through FOIAonline at: <https://foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home> or by mail or email at:

Nancy E. Kessler Platt, Chief FOIA Officer
National Labor Relations Board
1015 Half Street, S.E., 4th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20570
Email: DLCFOIAAppeal@nrlrb.gov

Any appeal must be postmarked or electronically submitted within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal should contain a complete statement of the reasons upon which it is based.

Please be advised that contacting any Agency official (including the FOIA Specialist, FOIA Officer, or the FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not an alternative or substitute for filing an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

/s/ Synta E. Keeling

Synta E. Keeling
FOIA Officer

Attachment: (five pages)